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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,209	02/25/2002	David M. Chapin	D/A2012	5638

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EXAMINER

RUDOLPH, VINCENT M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/083,209	Applicant(s) CHAPIN ET AL.	
	Examiner Vincent M. Rudolph	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) in view of Rosen (Pub. # 20030048473) and Microsoft's How to Use Windows XP to Share a Printer with Others on Your Network (referred hereafter as Microsoft).

Regarding claim 1, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses a system for installing on a user's host device (a computer workstation, See Figure 2, Element 204) connected to a network (See Figure 2, Element 206; Page 2, Paragraph 0024), a printer driver for a printer of a particular type (either a single-function device or a multifunction printer, See Figure 2, Element 202; Page 2, Paragraph 0025) within a network (See Figure 2; Page 2, Paragraph 0024). The user's host device includes a user interface (Microsoft Windows or similar operating system, See Page 1, Paragraph 0004) and a web browser for accessing the network (See Page 2, Paragraph 0028) and locating a desired printer on the network (entering the IP address of the desired printer, See Page 2, Paragraph 0028). The desired printer includes a web server (printer web server, See Figure 3) for accessing the network and for generating and displaying a web page in the

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user interface (See Page 2, Paragraph 0029). The web page includes a link for accessing an installer (a hypertext link is displayed on the computer workstation, See Page 2, Paragraph 0029). The printer driver is for a printer of a particular type (the web server supplies the driver for the printer device, See Page 2, Paragraph 0025 and Paragraph 0030). The desired printer also stores the desired printer's unique identification on the user's host device (once the user knows its unique information, IP address, the user is able to enter the information into the web browser so that the host device stores the unique identification information of the printer, See Page 2, Paragraph 0028). After responding to the stored information, the web server activates an installer (embodied within a printer web server, See Figure 3, Element 302) to supply the printer driver software to the user's host device (See Page 2, Paragraph 0029) and also map the desired printer on the user's host device in order to enable print jobs to be sent from the host device to the printer (once the printer driver software is stored, the computer workstation can then send a print job to the printer, See Page 3, Paragraph 0041).

Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does not disclose the desired printer having an identifier for uniquely identifying itself on the network, but it would have been obvious to include it for identifying the IP address of the printer. By having an IP address, which is specifically associated with the desired printer, it allows a user to connect, communicate and submit print jobs to it through the network. Thus, an identifier allows a printer to be recognized by its IP address so that a user is able to connect to it.

Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) also does not disclose that the network includes at least two printers of a particular type nor having the desired printer's unique identification unknown to the user and the user's host device initially.

Rosen (Pub. # 20030048473) discloses that two printers (See Figure 4, Elements 402 and 404) are connected within a network.

Microsoft discloses that the user is able to find a printer on the network by doing a complete search and once the results are displayed, select the desired printer to connect without the user or the user's host device initially knowing the unique identification of the printer (See Pages 3-4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to have multiple printers disclosed by Rosen (Pub. # 20030048473), and be able to search for them and other printers on the network as disclosed by Microsoft and incorporate it into the system of Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) because having more than one printer connected in a network allows a user to select a printer if a printer is busy, has an error, cannot complete the print job or has more features, such as stapling or sorting, that can handle the tasks of the requested print job. Also by allowing a user to search for multiple printers on a network, which are initially unknown to both the user and the computer, the user is able to find a desired printer, connect to it and apply the proper printer driver without having to know the unique identification information (IP address) in order to use the selected printer.

Regarding claim 2, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses the printer has an IP address included within the unique identification so a networked computer can access it (See Page 2, Paragraph 0025).

Regarding claim 3, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses the printer has an IP address included within the unique identification (See Page 2, Paragraph 0025). Since the IP address uniquely identifies the printer, it is inherent that the printer's name would be included also because the computer user would need to know the IP address along with the printer's name within the network in order to connect and print to it correctly.

Regarding claim 4, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses the identifier, such as the computer's operating system, loads a web browser and accesses the printer via the network address (See Page 3, Paragraph 0039). Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does not explicitly state that a web browser cookie is stored onto the computer as a result of the printer device being identified. Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does disclose the web browser is used to reach the printer. Web browsers use cookies, which have web site as well as personally identifiable information stored in a text file on a computer. It is known to those of ordinary skill in the art and inherent in computer networks that when a browser contacts a designated web site, a cookie is created containing the network address information in the temporary internet files of the host computer. Thus, it is inherent that the device of Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) makes and stores a cookie after the network, or IP, address of the printer is contacted.

Regarding claim 5, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses the printer driver software can be located within the printer, such as the printer memory (See Figure 3, Element 306) itself on the network when the computer requests to download the software from the hypertext link (See Page 2, Paragraph 0029-0030). Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does not explicitly state that a web browser cookie is stored onto the computer as a result of the printer device being identified. Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does disclose the web browser is used to reach the printer. Web browsers use cookies, which have web site as well as personally identifiable information stored in a text file on a computer. It is known to those of ordinary skill in the art and inherent in computer networks that when a browser contacts a designated web site, a cookie is created containing the network address information in the temporary internet files of the host computer. Thus, it is inherent that the device of Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) makes and stores a cookie after the network, or IP, address of the printer is contacted.

Regarding claim 6, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses that the printer driver can be received another location within the network, such as an external server, to supply updated printer driver software to the computer workstation (See Page 3, Paragraph 0042). Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does not explicitly state that a web browser cookie is stored onto the computer as a result of the printer device being identified. Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) does disclose the web browser is used to reach the printer. Web browsers use cookies, which have web site as well as personally identifiable information stored in a text file on a computer. It is known to

those of ordinary skill in the art and inherent in computer networks that when a browser contacts a designated web site, a cookie is created containing the network address information in the temporary internet files of the host computer. Thus, it is inherent that the device of Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) makes and stores a cookie after the network, or IP, address of the printer is contacted.

Regarding claim 7, Schacht (Pub. # 20030051011) discloses the host computer, or computer workstation (See Figure 2, Element 204), can comprise of a personal computer such as a desktop or laptop computer (See Page 2, Paragraph 0027).

Regarding claims 8-11, the rationale provided in the rejection of claims 1-3 and 7 are incorporated herein respectively. In addition the system of claims 1-3 and 7 corresponds to the method of claims 8-11 and provides the steps disclosed herein, respectively.

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues that the prior art does not contain an identifier that uniquely identifies the desired printer and stores it on the user's host device. Even though the prior art of Schacht does not disclose the printer having an identifier, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for it to be included within the printer. An IP address is used to identify a printer on the network so that a user is able to connect, communicate and submit print jobs to it. Thus, an identifier allows a printer to be recognized through its IP address so that a user is able to connect to it. Also, by applying Microsoft's How to Use Windows XP to Share a Printer with Others on Your Network (referred hereafter as Microsoft), a user is able to search for a printer in a

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connected network and select the desired printer to connect (See pages 3-4). So, by incorporating that teaching into Schacht, once the user selects the desired printer, a printer driver can be installed on the user's host device (See Page 5, Paragraph 0029) and as a result, the user is able to use the printer to output documents. Therefore, the combination of Microsoft, along with Rosen for having multiple printers on the network, and Schacht, the prior art meets the claimed limitation.

Based on these results and also not addressing all the limitations previously, **this action is made NON-FINAL.**

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent M. Rudolph whose telephone number is (571) 272-8243. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

9/19/06

VME

Vincent M. Rudolph
Examiner
Art Unit 2625



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